GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:893
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2001
AMMUNITION DEVELOPED BY ORDNANCE FACTORY ORGANISATION
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether seven types of ammunition was to be developed by Ordnance Factory Organization for 155mm Howitzers Gun supplied during 1991-93;

(b) if so, whether Ordnance Factory Organization have failed to develop three out of seven types of ammunition of 155mm Howitzers;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have taken note of defects in the four types of ammunition supplied by Ordnance Factories;

(e) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(g) the remedial measures taken by the Government to avoid such losses?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, indents for seven types of ammunition for 155mm Gun system were issued by Directorate General Ordnance Services (DGOS) in August 1990 for supply during 1991-93.These ammunitions were to be developed as per the technology from Bofors, Sweden.

(b) & (c): Technology documents for two types of ammunitions i.e. 155mm smoke Infra Red and 155mm Cargo were not received from Bofors due to imposition of ban and the Authority Holding Sealed Particulars (AHSP) i.e. Controller of Quality Assurance (Ammunition) (CQA) (Ammunition) could not vet the indents for these two ammunitions.As such development/production of these two ammunitions was not undertaken whereas Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) developed the remaining five types of ammunitions.

(d) The five types of ammunitions developed by OFB as per Bofors technology have passed relevant tests and acceptance criteria.

(e) No enquiry was conducted.

(f) & (g): Does not arise in view of (e) above.